

aroused the working classes forget all other considerations and will vote for the political side which voices most clearly their feelings of aggressiveness or indignation.

Generally the Liberal programme of changes—however indefinite—should naturally be more attractive to the poorer classes than the Conservative attitude of "let well alone." But both parties represent wealth and the privileges of wealth and that either of them should be victorious indicates that the atmosphere of elections has so far been charged by party spirit, by the emulative impulse, rather than by hopes of personal benefit. One class stands apart—those who are fired by an ardent desire to improve the condition of their fellows, who view politics, not as a play, but as a purposeful effort to raise ideals and succour distress. These may give their votes to whichever party promises them assistance. But they are comparatively few in number, and their influence is very much less than their zeal.

Party government has merits of its own as a system for administering home affairs. But in the conduct of foreign affairs and in the control of dependent peoples, it suffers from a great disadvantage. A State is conciliated or obeyed according to the respect with which it is regarded. It requires, however, a mind steeped in democratic sympathies to feel respect for a government which periodically appeals to the public not to

turn it out
of office, and solicits the opinions of the
masses
upon questions of State policy. In
Europe
democratic sentiment is growing
apace, and our
Foreign Secretary's difficulties are
sympathetically
regarded by foreign ministers, few of
them free
from similar difficulties of their own. No
such
allowances may, however, be expected
from depen-